

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:

- 1) A weapon comprising a firearm having a butt-end and a fore-end, a barrel through which a projectile may be propelled, a mechanism including a trigger for firing off said projectile, said trigger operable by a digit of a first hand of an operator, and a fluid ejection mechanism for selectively ejecting a stream of fluid in a direction substantially parallel to the axis of the barrel, wherein said fluid ejection mechanism includes a housing mounted on the fore-end of the firearm, mounted in the housing a fluid containing canister having an outlet moveable between fluid retaining and fluid releasing positions, a nozzle mounted in the housing upstream of the outlet with fluid released from the canister passing through said nozzle, and a fluid release mechanism, and wherein said housing comprises a front face and a rear face, said front face including an opening, wherein fluid ejected through said nozzle passes through said opening, the front face further comprising a hand-grip portion, and wherein said rear face includes an opening, and wherein said fluid release mechanism is actuated through said opening and by the thumb of the operator's second hand gripping said hand-grip, said thumb closing on itself to operate said fluid release mechanism.
- 2) A weapon according to Claim 1, wherein said fluid release mechanism comprises a lever pivotable about a pivot axis between first and second positions, and wherein with the lever in the first position the outlet of the canister is in the fluid retaining position, and with the lever in the second position the outlet of the canister is in the fluid releasing position.
- 3) A weapon according to Claim 2, wherein the lever engages with the nozzle and during movement from the first to the second position generates movement of the nozzle towards the outlet of the canister.

- 4) A weapon according to Claim 2, wherein the lever comprises a pad, said pad being engagable by the thumb to move the trigger from said first position to said second position.
- 5) A weapon according to Claim 4, wherein with the lever in the first position the said pad is located in substantially the same plane as the pivot axis of said trigger.
- 6) A weapon according to Claim 4, wherein with the lever in the first position the said pad is located in a plane below the plane of said pivot axis.
- 7) A weapon according to Claim 2, wherein the lever extends through the opening in the rear face of the housing.
- 8) A weapon according to Claim 1, wherein said fluid release mechanism further comprises a pad on said nozzle, said pad engagable by said thumb, whereby exertion of a downward force on the pad by the thumb moves the nozzle towards the canister, thereby moving the outlet from the fluid retaining position to the fluid releasing position.
- 9) A weapon according to Claim 1, wherein said fore-end comprises a rail and said housing is attached to said rail by a bracket, wherein one end of said bracket is attached to said rail and the housing is attached to the other end of said bracket.
- 10) A weapon comprising a firearm having a butt-end and a fore-end, a barrel through which a projectile may be propelled, a mechanism including a first trigger for firing off said projectile, said first trigger operable by a digit of an operator's first hand, and a fluid ejection mechanism for selectively ejecting a stream of fluid in a direction substantially parallel to the axis of the barrel, wherein said fluid ejection mechanism includes a housing mounted on the fore-end of the firearm, mounted in the housing a fluid containing canister having an outlet moveable between fluid retaining and fluid releasing positions, a nozzle mounted in the housing upstream of the outlet with fluid released from the

canister passing through said nozzle, and a fluid release mechanism comprising a second trigger operable by a digit of an operator's second hand gripping said hand-grip, said digit closing on itself to operate said second trigger.